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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

Administrative Action

ALAN RUTHERFORD, L.P.N. LICENSE # NP06755000

ORDER TERMINATING SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") following the issuance of a Final Order of Discipline on December 17, 2014, suspending respondent's New Jersey nursing license, and imposing a \$250 civil penalty.

Respondent's nursing license had expired on May 31, 2014. The basis for the Final Order of Discipline was respondent's failure to respond to a Board inquiry concerning an arrest on charges of unlawful possession of a weapon.

Mr. Rutherford has now forwarded the requested information to the Board, indicating that he had been admitted into the Pre-Trial Intervention Program on October 7, 2014. Investigative records he provided indicate that the weapon at issue was a "BB gun," which had been glimpsed in his luggage at a Greyhound bus station by a fellow passenger unknown to Mr. Rutherford, who then (under the erroneous impression that she was about to be kidnapped) reported the presence of the weapon to the authorities.

Mr. Rutherford indicates that he is currently unable to work because of health issues, and at the present time cannot afford to pay the monetary penalty imposed by the December 17, 2014 Final Order of Discipline. Mr. Rutherford currently resides in Alabama.

The Board finding that relief from the disciplinary suspension of Mr. Rutherford's nursing license is warranted under the circumstances, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS, ON THIS 9th DAY OF March, 2015
HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The disciplinary suspension imposed pursuant to the December 17, 2014 Final Order of Discipline is hereby terminated.
- 2. The \$250 civil penalty imposed pursuant to the 2014 order is hereby entirely stayed unless or until Mr. Rutherford seeks

reinstatement of his New Jersey nursing license. In the event that respondent does apply for reinstatement of his New Jersey nursing license, however, the stay on the penalty shall be lifted, and no petition for reinstatement shall be entertained until he has paid the \$250 civil penalty.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Ann Murph

Board President